

LAWYERS ROAD
SUMMARY OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS, JULY 12, 2005

Park features liked the most:

- Covered pavilion
- Benches along trail
- Picnic tables
- Kiosk
- Playground with traditional equipment and also some unique equipment like the climbing rocks that were in the presentation
- Loop trail
- Buffer of vegetation around park perimeter
- Fitness cluster
- No proposed park lights
- Tree preservation highly valued
- Open play area

Park features moderately liked:

- Kiosk
- Stormwater control facilities (rain garden and pond)
- Smaller rectangular field

Park features disliked:

- Park pedestrian accesses to park from neighborhood
- High intensity development like in option A
- Skating facility
- Multi-purpose court
- Location of rectangular field near front of park

Concerns:

- Lawyers Road entrance is dangerous for cars and pedestrians
- Park visitors parking in the courts
- Stormwater control adequate
- The rectangular field too close to the parking lot
- People using the park at night for drinking and using drugs
- Grading the land too much to build the rectangular field

Ideas:

- Change the orientation of the parking lot so it is parallel with Lawyers Road
- Build a trail to connect with WO&D bike path
- Manage the invasive plants
- Keep mature trees around the playground to provide shade

Questions from July 12, 2005 Lawyers Road Planning Workshop

1. Could parking lot be located across the Lawyers Road frontage, thus leaving more space for development and preservation?

Yes, that is under consideration.

2. Why develop another park when there are several nearby parks that are underutilized?

*The Parks and Recreational Needs assessment shows the need for many additional parks and facilities. Please see:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/needsassessment_final.pdf*

3. Did the BOS approve making this site a park? Was this parcel one of the parks that was discussed at the BOS meeting Monday night?

The Lawyer's Road Park is owned by the Fairfax County School Board and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority under an interim-use agreement. Indirectly, the Board of Supervisors has approved this site for park use through the adopted County Comprehensive Plan that calls for park use here.

4. When will safety issues be addressed, especially as they relate to traffic on Lawyers Road?

Specific safety measures as they relate to the park will be designed during detailed site engineering. The detailed site engineering plans would not be developed until such time as the Park Authority Board identifies funding to develop the park. This is not envisioned to occur for several years.

Lawyer's Road has an average daily traffic count of over 11,000 trips per day. The Park will generate at most between 100 and 150 trips per day. The Park Authority will provide major road frontage improvements along Lawyers Road that likely will include expanded lane width, sight line and drainage improvements, and the addition of sufficient-length turn lanes. These improvements will more than offset the marginal traffic volumes that the park will contribute to the overall volumes on Lawyers Road and will improve safety conditions.

5. Is the entrance as shown a given?

The entrance to Lawyer's Road Park will be aligned to be opposite to Carrhill Road. This is the safest location for the entrance to the park as identified by The Fairfax County Department of Transportation.

6. What affect will the construction of new facilities have on existing residential water and sewer? Will new facilities depress the water table (these homes have well water)?

There will be no impact of the park development on local water wells. The Park (as is the subdivisions to the south of the park site) is served by water service from the Town of Vienna. In addition, the use of low-impact design strategies at the park will help recharge the local groundwater table.

7. What will be done to prevent run-off onto McDuff Court?

Storm water management will be provided to control runoff from the site.

8. Who owns the land where access paths are shown into the park from McDuff and McChesney courts?

The land is part of the larger parcel owned by the Fairfax County School Board and under an interim-use agreement to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

9. Is there any real need for a basketball court?

*The Parks and Recreational Needs assessment shows the need for many additional parks and facilities, including basketball courts. Please see:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/needsassessment_final.pdf*

10. Where is a passive option? All options have active recreation and rectangular fields.

All options include both passive and active areas within the park. There are no high quality natural resources on site that warrant designation of the entire site for passive use only.

11. When the park is developed will wildlife be displaced and if it is how will the Park Authority handle those issues?

Wildlife may be displaced during park development depending upon the extent of facilities proposed. Similar to any development, wildlife typically relocates to nearby sites.

12. Do any similar types of parks have problems with people “hanging out” in them at night?

Fairfax County police monitor and enforce regulations related to no park use after sunset.